

What is claimed is:

1. A method for preparing oltipraz, comprising reacting methyl 2-methyl-3-(pyrazin-2-yl)-3-oxopropionate with phosphorus pentasulfide in the presence of a mixed solvent of toluene and xylene under reflux to
5 produce an oltipraz crude crystal, followed by recrystallization.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the volume ratio of toluene to xylene in the mixed solvent is in a range of 1:1 to 1:4.
- 10 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the methyl 2-methyl-3-(pyrazin-2-yl)-3-oxopropionate is prepared by a condensation reaction of methyl pyrazine-2-carboxylate and methyl propionate in the presence of a strong base.
- 15 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the strong base is potassium t-butoxide.
5. The method of claim 3, wherein a solvent for the condensation reaction is tetrahydrofuran.
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6. The method of claim 1, wherein a solvent for the recrystallization is selected from the group consisting of acetonitrile, methanol, N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-dimethylacetamide, and a mixed solvent thereof.
- 25 7. The method of claim 6, wherein acetonitrile in an amount of 30 to 40 parts by volume, based on 1 part by weight of the oltipraz crude crystal, is used for the recrystallization.
- 30 8. The method of claim 6, wherein a mixed solvent of N,N-dimethylformamide in an amount of 15 to 20 parts by volume and acetonitrile in an amount of 30 to 40 parts by volume, based on 1 part by

weight of the oltipraz crude crystal, is used for the recrystallization.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein a mixed solvent of N,N-dimethylformamide in an amount of 15 to 20 parts by volume and
5 methanol in an amount of 30 to 40 parts by volume, based on 1 part by weight of the oltipraz crude crystal, is used for the recrystallization.